



**TOWN OF GROTON**  
**Board of Health**  
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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 7, 2023  
**TO:** Zoning Board of Appeals  
**FROM:** Board of Health  
**RE:** Groton Farms Comprehensive Permit

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At its meeting on June 5, 2023, the Board of Health reviewed the plans and supporting documents submitted by 500 MG, LLC for a Comprehensive Permit to construct 200 residential rental units on property located at 500 Main Street. The Committee voted to offer the following comment, in addition to the comments submitted by Health Agent Ira Grossman on March 27, 2023.

The Board of Health voted to amend several regulations on May 15, 2023 including Chapter 286 Hazardous Materials, Section 286-2 Definitions, which states:

“HAZARDOUS MATERIALS — A substance or combination of substances which, because of its quantity, concentration or physical, chemical or infectious characteristics, may cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness or pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health, safety or welfare or to the environment when improperly treated, stored, transported used or disposed of or otherwise managed; however, not to include solid or dissolved material in domestic sewage or solid or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows or industrial discharges which are point sources subject to permits under Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1967, as amended, or source, special nuclear or by-product material, as defined by the Atomic Energy Acts of 1954. Those substances considered to be "hazardous materials" shall include, but shall not be limited to, substances considered to be toxic or hazardous by the Division of Hazardous Waste of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provision of MGL, Chapter 21(c) and as defined in 310 CMR 40.00 MA Contingency Plan

“PFAS- Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS)”

And Section 286-3, Disposal restricted, which states:

“The disposal of hazardous materials or deposit of materials containing hazardous material or biosolids within the Town of Groton is hereby prohibited, except at a hazardous waste disposal facility established and maintained in accordance with applicable law. Occupancy of any existing or new premises, other than residential dwellings, is hereby prohibited, except in conformance with the provisions of this chapter. The depositing of fill, in excess of 500 cubic yards of material onto any parcel of land within the Town of Groton shall be required to provide laboratory results documenting that the material is non-hazardous (as defined in this regulation) to include USEPA methods 8260, 8270, RCRA-5 and PFAS. Any fill used within the Town of Groton shall be “clean”, MassDOT approved process material (“gravel borrow” and “ordinary borrow”. The fill shall not contain any construction processed wastes nor recycled or process asphalt, brick or concrete.”

The complete text of Chapter 286 is available on the Town’s website at:

<https://www.grotonma.gov/government/boards-and-committees/board-of-health/>

The Board of Health recommends the Zoning Board of Appeals consider including a condition in the Comprehensive requiring compliance with Chapter 286 Hazardous Materials.